



in Partnership with



Innovation Alliance

You are encouraged to use this assessment tool as a place to start the dialogue with your church leadership team. Get started by completing the following questions:

CHURCH LEADERSHIP PERSPECTIVE

- **How do your key leaders (pastors, elders, etc.) describe your church regarding...**
 - **Nurturing Strong Marriages**
 - 1 - We have a compelling vision with effective programs and high participation
 - 2 - We have a strong desire with periodic programs and some participation
 - 3 - We have good intentions but no clear strategy
 - 4 - We don't consider it a high priority
 - 5 - It doesn't fit our mission or strategy
 - **Parents introducing children to Christ**
 - 1 - We have a compelling vision with effective programs and high participation
 - 2 - We have a strong desire with periodic programs and some participation
 - 3 - We have good intentions but no clear strategy
 - 4 - We don't consider it a high priority
 - 5 - It doesn't fit our mission or strategy
 - **Teens developing a strong Christian faith**
 - 1 - We have a compelling vision with effective programs and high participation
 - 2 - We have a strong desire with periodic programs and some participation
 - 3 - We have good intentions but no clear strategy
 - 4 - We don't consider it a high priority
 - 5 - It doesn't fit our mission or strategy

CHURCH PROGRAM PROFILE

- **List all ministry programs that your church would categorize as intentionally strengthening families and approximate participation as a percent of weekend attendance.**

- **List all ministry programs with approximate participation numbers that...**
 - **Launch marriages** (i.e. courtship teaching, pre-marital counseling, weddings, etc.)
 - **Strengthen marriages** (i.e. pulpit series, marriage mentoring, weekend retreats, date night childcare, etc.)
 - **Salvage marriages** (i.e. crisis counseling)

- **List all ministry programs that help parents disciple their own children and approximate participation as a percent of attending parents.**

CHURCH FAMILIES PROFILE

- **Using your standard attendance tracking measures, describe the age/lifestyle breakdown of your weekend attendees in as much detail as possible.**
 - (i.e. 1000 adults, 250 teens, 350 kids, etc.)

- **What percentage of total church attendees belongs to...?**
 - A household where there are two parents with minor children living at home.
 - A household where there is one parent with minor children living at home.
 - A household where there is a married couple before children (young marrieds).
 - A household where there is a married couple after children (empty nesters).
 - A household with no marriage or children.
 - *(Note: Few churches track attendance by household – typically counting individuals in a worship service, in the youth group, etc. We need data on household profiles so that we can begin to deal with the family as a unit rather than as a collection of individuals. It is suggested that you use membership and/or giving records to connect attendees to a single address and extrapolate that data across the total church population.)*

- **How would regular attending adults respond to the following questions?**
 - I am confident my marriage will last until one of us dies.
 - I believe my marriage is, for the most part, God honoring and happy.
 - I am confident that my child has or will trust Christ as his/her savior and Lord by the time he/she reaches 12 years old. (Please answer separately for each child.)
 - If confident, why?
 - If not, why not?
 - I am confident that my child has or will develop a strong Christian faith by the time he/she graduates from high school. (Please answer separately for each child.)
 - If confident, why?
 - If not, why not?
 - My family routinely practices spiritual activities together (i.e. prayer, worship, Bible study, spiritual discussions, etc.) in addition to those we practice separately (i.e. age-graded church classes, youth group, etc.)

Let the Dialogue Begin

Using the above data discuss as a team the following questions.

- In what ways does attending your church make it more likely teens will experience faith at home than if they attended another church?
 1. What parts of our church culture encourages this?
 2. Would the parents in your church say you are helping them guide their teens into becoming Christ-centered believers?
 3. Looking to the future, what could you do in this arena?
- In what ways does attending your church make it more likely parents will introduce their young children to Christ?
 1. What parts of our church culture encourages this?
 2. Would the parents in your church say you are helping them introduce their young children to Christ?
 3. Looking to the future, what could you do in this arena?

- In what ways does attending your church make it more likely couples will build a strong marriage?
 1. What parts of our church culture encourages this?
 2. Would couples say you are helping them be intentional about building a stronger marriage?
 3. Looking to the future, what could you do in this arena?